

Funding Sources

Transportation Improvement Program

North Carolina's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a document which lists all major construction projects the Department of Transportation plans for the next seven years. Similar to local Capital Improvement Program projects, TIP projects are matched with projected funding sources. Each year when the TIP is updated, completed projects are removed, programmed projects are advanced, and new projects are added.

During annual TIP public hearings, municipalities request projects to be included in the TIP. A Board of Transportation member reviews all of the project requests in a particular area of the state. Based on the technical feasibility, need, and available funding, the board member decides which projects will be included in the TIP. In addition to highway construction and widening, TIP funds are available for bridge replacement projects, highway safety projects, public transit projects, railroad projects, and bicycle projects. See Appendix B for the proper procedure concerning the acquisition of TIP funds and for a project's inclusion in the TIP.

Industrial Access Funds

If an industry wishes to develop property that does not have access to a state maintained highway and certain economic conditions are met, then funds may be made available for construction of an access road.

Small Urban Funds

Small Urban funds are annual discretionary funds made to municipalities with qualifying projects. The maximum amount is \$1,000,000 per year per division. A municipality may have multiple projects. Requests for Small Urban Fund assistance should be directed to the appropriate Board of Transportation member and Division Engineer.

Secondary Roads Programs

Nearly all secondary road improvements are done on a county by county basis. These funds are used to pave unimproved roads, widen roadways, stabilize dirt roads, make minor alignment improvements, and even construct short connectors when appropriate.

The North Carolina Highway Trust Fund Law

The Highway Trust Fund Law was established in 1989 as a plan with four major goals for North Carolina's roads and highways. These goals are:

1. To complete the remaining 2,768 km (1,716 mi.) of four lane construction on the 5,800 km (3,600 mi.) North Carolina Intrastate System.